

In the Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A lithium primary battery comprising a
2 positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a non-aqueous
3 electrolyte,

4 wherein manganese dioxide containing 0.1 to 3 % by
5 weight of boron is used as said positive electrode and a
6 lithium alloy containing 0.05 to 2 % by weight of aluminum
7 is used as said negative electrode.

1 2. (currently amended) The lithium primary battery according
2 to claim 1, wherein said boron is added to manganese
3 dioxide by adding boric acid.

1 3. (currently amended) The lithium primary battery according
2 to claim 1, wherein the positive electrode is produced by
3 heat treatment of manganese dioxide after addition of boron
4 at a temperature ranging from 350 to 430°C.

1 4. (currently amended) The lithium primary battery according
2 to claim 1, wherein said positive electrode further
3 includes 0.02 to 2 % by weight of phosphorus.

Claims 5 to 11 (canceled).

1 12. (new) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said positive electrode does not contain lithium.

1 13. (new) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said positive electrode consists essentially of
3 said manganese dioxide, said boron, and carbon.

1 14. (new) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said boron is provided in a lithium-boron compound,
3 and wherein said positive electrode does not contain
4 lithium beyond lithium included in said lithium-boron
5 compound.

1 15. (new) The lithium primary battery according to claim 4,
2 wherein said phosphorous is provided in a
3 lithium-phosphorous compound, and wherein said positive
4 electrode does not contain lithium beyond lithium included
5 in said lithium-phosphorous compound.

1 16. (new) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1,
2 wherein said manganese dioxide does not contain lithium.

1 17. (new) A lithium primary battery comprising:
2 a positive electrode comprising manganese dioxide and
3 0.1 to 3 weight percent of boron;
4 a negative electrode comprising a lithium alloy
5 containing lithium and 0.05 to 2 weight percent of
6 aluminum; and
7 a non-aqueous electrolyte.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]